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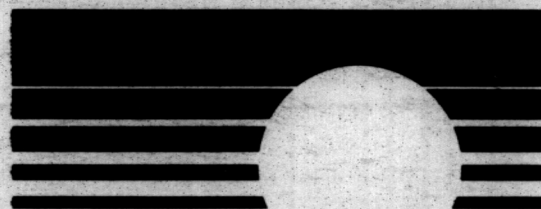
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Start Something New

Scudders learn patience in mission post

By Teresa Dickens
SBC Woman's Missionary Union

SALT LAKE CITY — "Start Something New" is not just a theme to Steve and Karen Scudder; it is their philosophy for ministry.

The Scudders are home missionaries in Salt Lake City. Scudder is ministry consultant with the Utah-Idaho Southern Baptist Convention and director of the Baptist Concern Center on the west side of downtown Salt Lake City.

The couple were among the missionaries featured in this year's Week of Prayer for Home Missions. "Start Something New" is the theme for the Season of Home Missions.

The Scudders have been ministering together since their college days at Cumberland (Ky.) College, where they met and married.

Upon graduation, the couple moved to Louisville, Ky., to study at Southern Seminary.

Scudder's ministry in the state convention involves helping churches and associations develop and implement ministries that meet human needs and lead the lost to Christ.

"We help the churches and associations look at their communities and see where people are hurting and where those needs are not being met," he said.

The couple's philosophy of "Start Something New" is most clearly seen in their ministry at the Baptist Concern Center, and it seems to be working.

When the couple moved on the field in September 1990, the center was only touching a handful of lives. In 1995, the center served 6,000 people and 25 people made professions of faith.

"A lot of people have argued about whether you should do evangelism or Christian social ministries, like they are two separate things," Scudder said.

"Well, I believe they are the same thing. That is what Jesus did — He touched people where they were hurting and led them to God's Kingdom. That's what we're trying to do."

One of the center's most successful "new" ministries is the Infant and Family Support Services, started in 1992 as an outgrowth of the center's feeding ministry.

The program requires clients to attend a workshop offered by the center. Workshops are offered twice a month and cover topics such as safety, parenting, cook-



PACKING IT IN — Steve Scudder (right) is ministry consultant for the Utah/Idaho Baptist Convention, and also director of the Baptist Concern Center in Salt Lake City. Scudder and his wife Karen prepare groceries for the food distribution ministry at the center. The center began in the mid-seventies and serves mostly Asian and Russian immigrants in the Salt Lake area. (HMB photo by Dan Rutledge)

ing, budgeting, and health care. Scudder said workshop leaders usually write their own curriculum, making the content fit the families the program serves.

The chance to build these relationships is the motive behind the Scudders' flexibility in "Starting Something New."

"The work in Utah has taught us patience," he commented. "We came thinking we would make a difference 'today,' but you don't do that in Utah and Idaho. It takes a long time," he said.

"We have come to understand that we are here to fulfill our calling in Christ, which is to share the good news with everyone we meet regardless of who they are or what religion they represent. If they have a human need, we will meet it. If we cannot, we will attempt to find a place where the need can be met. In the process, we are going to tell the person about the love of God and Jesus Christ and show it in our lives," Scudder pointed out.

WHAT'S IN THE RECORD

New MBHS head chosen

3

What is MBHS?

5

Partnership needs

7

NOBTS choir tours state

10

Home mission facts to consider

- ◆ An estimated one-third of Southern Baptist home missionaries use the help of volunteers in their work. Short-term volunteers often can do quickly what a full-time missionary cannot accomplish. A total of 68,198 short-term volunteers served in 1995. Two areas desperate in need of volunteers are areas outside of the South and in urban areas.
- ◆ More than 2,400 Southern Baptist-endorsed chaplains served at military bases, institutions, and businesses in 1995. Every day chaplains are sharing Jesus' love with the lost by going where many cannot go.
- ◆ Total Mission Service Corps volunteers are at an all-time high. In 1995, the number was 2,193 — far above the goal of 1,625.
- ◆ One-third of adults who joined Southern Baptist churches after a recent conversion experience reported that some person or group of people was the primary influence in their decision to become a Christian. That influence may have been a personal witness, an example of Christian living, or the result of friendship.

Source: Woman's Missionary Union Speakers Guide, 1997 Week of Prayer for Home Missions

Looking back

10 years ago

Thirteen days after a tornado wipes out a portion of Jones County, a woman asks Jones Association Director of Missions Maurice Flowers for help. Flowers told a group of pastors her home can be repaired, but the emotional trauma will need to be dealt with for months to come.

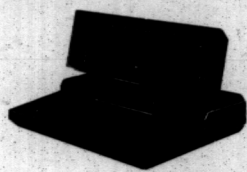
20 years ago

James Murook (Jim) McLeod, honorary deacon and member of Paul Truitt Church, Pearl, celebrates his 100th birthday. He was ordained as a deacon at Harrisville Church, Harrisville, when he was a young man, and led the singing for that church for 60 years.

50 years ago

The inaugural meeting of the advisory committee to "The Baptist Record" results in a vote to cut the size of the newsjournal from 16 pages to 12 pages every other week on account of the continuing extreme difficulty in obtaining newsprint.

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The "Great Unifier" unifies us still

Throughout Southern Baptist history, God has consistently raised leaders of giant proportions to move the denomination toward the goal of fulfilling our Savior's Great Commission.

They were bold people who sought the mind of God. At times, they were forced to swim against the tide of contemporary thought and strong-willed but misguided individuals who sought to turn Southern Baptists in other directions.

One of the greatest and the strongest of those God-chosen leaders was Annie Armstrong, the first corresponding secretary of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) and one of the early supporters of home missions.

Annie was born into a Baltimore family whose material wealth was far above the norm for that era. Even though she was attended by servants, she soon learned the importance of helping others who were less privileged.

Her mother, a generous and deeply spiritual woman, founded the Union Protestant Infirmary in Baltimore and was instrumental in starting many other such programs in the Baltimore area.

Annie grew up following her mother's example of sacrificial service. She began giving freely of her time and formidable organizational skills in volunteer work for local orphanages and poorhouses.

Early in life, Annie developed a burden for the souls of uncounted number who needed Jesus Christ in their lives.

It was this background that Annie Armstrong carried into her Southern Baptist denominational work.

Women's work in the denomination was bitterly opposed in the early days of WMU when she served as corresponding secretary.

Opponents contending that organized women would abdicate the positions God had prepared for them and assume such unwomanly characteristics as seeking power and fame.

Armstrong — who would come to be known in Southern Baptist circles as the "Great Unifier" — spoke instead of "growing ability, and of decreasing impediments to progress, which inevitably lead to a fuller understanding and acknowledgement of our position as factors of usefulness in the world's advance and evangelization. We thereby lose not one iota of our womanliness."

She received no salary as WMU corresponding secretary, preferring instead to funnel all gifts and offerings into missions work while living off her personal funds.

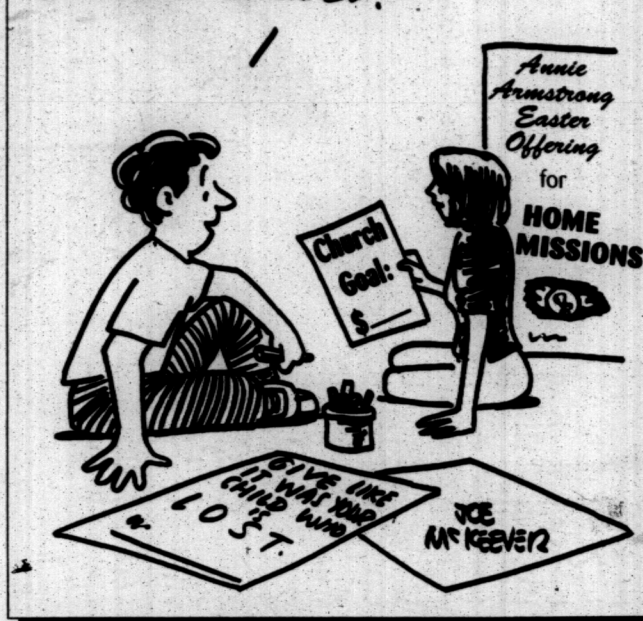
When the WMU executive committee in 1900 attempted to force her to accept a salary in light of her serious financial decline, she threatened to quit rather than take the money.

The idea was dropped until after her retirement.

Armstrong was also a great believer in the fractious Southern Baptist entities working together, hence her reputation at the Great Unifier.

In 1934, Southern Baptists' offering for home missions was named in her honor. The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions ranks today as one of the greatest offering efforts in the history of evangelism.

"LET'S SURPRISE THE PASTOR
AND DOUBLE THE GOAL FOR
THE MISSION OFFERING. HE'LL
BE REAL EXCITED!"



Not one to rest on her laurels, Annie exhorted WMU members in 1890 to remember an important fact:

These opening doors for women, never so numerous or so wide in the history of the world before, are God's call to us to work as we have never worked before. Rewards await us yonder, work awaits us here.

Now is the time to be in prayer about your role in home missions — so many remain unsaved — and in prayer about your gift to the Annie Armstrong Offering.

As Annie so eloquently pointed out, there is much left to do.

Sunday, March 16, our convention will address the ever growing problem of alcohol and drugs.

In Mississippi, it has become an epidemic. Although we don't like to admit this at times, we have a major alcohol and drug problem.

Alcohol and drugs kill the people who use them and those who get in the way of their using.

They kill innocent babies. They totally destroy the minds, initiative, and creativity of our young people.

They kill entire neighborhoods, reducing many once-safe neighborhoods to high crime areas. One chief of police of a major Mississippi city stated that 99% of the crime is related in some way to alcohol and drug use.

More than 25,000 DUI's were issued last year. Alcohol and drugs have invaded our churches and our homes.

For every one person who uses alcohol and drugs, twelve other people are directly affected. The increase of domestic violence, child abuse, and broken families can be traced to alcohol and drug use.

The human suffering from alcohol and drug use is devastating for the user's family and friends. Often we think of the alcoholic or addict as a person who lives on skid row, eats out of garbage cans, and is homeless.

The alarming truth is that only 3% of alcoholics and addicts are in this population. The other 97% are members of churches, the workplace, and upper middle class families. Their effects can last for a lifetime and for many generations of a family.

I am reminded of something I read long ago, but its message is still relevant. It is "The Parable of the Reformers" by Joseph Moline.

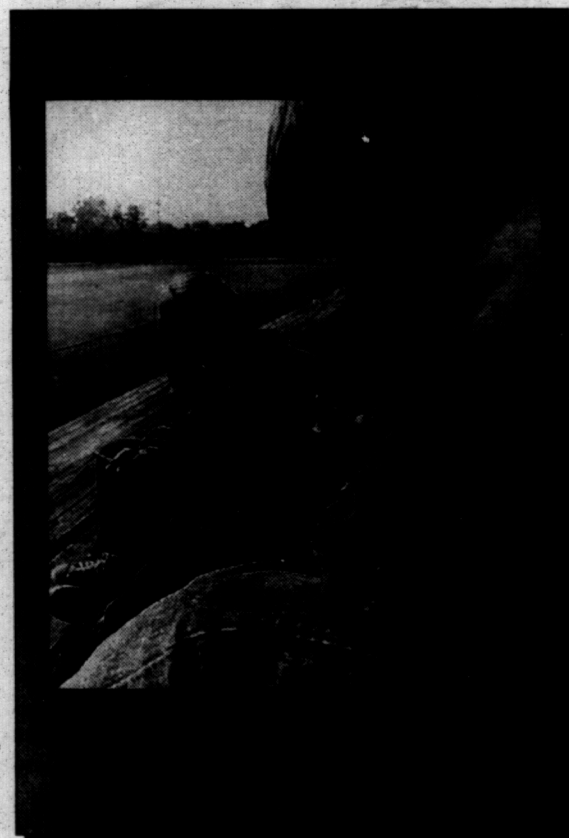
The parable talks about a dangerous cliff

GUEST OPINION:



Let's begin building fences

By Don G. Nerren
Crisis Intervention Specialist
Mississippi Baptist Medical Center



in small community. The community works hard to buy ambulances to save the people who fall off the cliff, but they never did anything to prevent the people from falling off the cliff.

They could have built a fence for a lot less than they spent on ambulances. More lives would have been saved this way.

The moral of the story relates in a real way to alcohol and drug use. We have been content to wait until the last minute or until a person has hit bottom so badly that it

is almost impossible to help the person.

We will always need treatment for addiction, but would it be wiser to spend more time and energy educating and preventing the downfall of so many?

At all costs, we must make a commitment of our money, our hearts, and our time fighting this issue or it will surely destroy us.

We as Baptists have been content to buy the ambulances instead of building the fence around the cliff.

Is there any hope? I personally believe that the local church holds the key. We can educate our people about alcohol and drugs.

We can encourage our pastors to raise their voices in the pulpit against this devastating plague. We can start Sunday School classes for folks who are in recovery.

We can open doors for support groups. We can welcome people who are in recovery into our church families.

We can learn about the unconditional love of Christ.

By doing this, we can put some fences at the top of the cliff that will stop people before they fall.

We can plan to observe Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Sunday on March 16.

State CP outpaces budget

The financial picture continues to be bright for Mississippi Baptist Cooperative Program (CP) giving, according to February 1997 giving totals released by Bill Causey, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB).

February CP gifts totaled \$1,922,171, after January CP gifts set another all-time record of \$2,922,651. Total CP giving for January and February amounts to \$4,844,822 — \$449,722 (10.23%) ahead of giving for the same period in 1996.

CP giving is also \$820,641 (20.39%) ahead of the 1997 MBCB budget pro-rata amount of \$4,024,181. The pro rata amount is calculated by taking the 1997 Mississippi CP budget of \$24,145,086, dividing by 12 months, and then multiplying by the number of months elapsed since the beginning of the fiscal year.

CP funding is allocated 37% to Southern Baptist causes outside the state. The remainder helps fund Mississippi Baptist projects such as the state youth choir festival in Madison on March 21-22, and the small church Sunday School leadership conferences in late March in four locations across the state.

For more information on the Cooperative Program in Mississippi, contact the MBCB Stewardship Department at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

SBC CP receipts rise 10%

NASHVILLE (BP) — Cooperative Program (CP) receipts for February soared more than 10% above the same month a year ago, according to Morris H. Chapman, president and chief executive officers of the SBC Executive Committee.

February CP gifts totaled \$13,390,219 compared to the same month in 1996 of \$12,103,599, an increase of \$1,286,620 (10.63%).

For the fiscal year to date, Oct. 1-Feb. 28, CP gifts totaled \$64,920,033 compared to the same period last year of \$60,319,676, an increase of \$4,600,356 (7.63%).

The SBC CP Allocation Budget requires a monthly total of \$12,087,791. The February gifts surpassed that mark by \$1,302,428 (10.77%). For the SBC budget year to date, the required total is \$60,438,957. Year-to-date, the CP receipts exceed the budget by \$4,481,075 (7.42%).

For designated gifts, during February the SBC received \$42,937,012 compared to February 1996 of \$43,986,895, a decrease of \$49,883 (.11%). However, for the year, designated gifts totaled \$70,634,205 compared to the previous year's total of \$69,580,000, an increase of \$1,054,204 (1.52%).

The SBC CP total includes receipts from individuals, churches, state conventions, and fellowships for distribution according to the 1996-97 CP Allocation Budget.



Metzner to head new healthcare system

Kurt W. Metzner of (MBHS), the newly-created parent company for Mississippi Baptist Medical Center (MBMC) in Jackson and numerous other healthcare services

affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Metzner, a 55-year-old Minneapolis, Minn. native and veteran healthcare administrator, has been on the job since Feb. 17.

"We looked for someone with a proven record of successfully positioning hospitals to compete cost-effectively in a managed care environment."

"As a board, we unanimously agree that Kurt Metzner is the best person for further development of MBHS," said Howard W. McMillan of Jackson, chairman of the MBHS board of trustees.

The new MBHS corporate structure will include existing Mississippi Baptist healthcare operations, as well as development of future affiliations, alliances, partnerships, subsidiaries, and services in the healthcare marketplace, said a hospital spokesperson.

Metzner comes to MBHS from Horizon Healthcare, Inc., in Milwaukee, which he created in 1990. Under his leadership, Horizon grew from three hospitals in the beginning to today's eight hospitals with affiliated organizations.

Among the positions Metzner has held is a stint as president and chief operating officer of Baptist Hospitals and Health Systems in Phoenix, Ariz.

Metzner holds a bachelor's degree in sociology and a master's degree in health administration, both from the University of Minnesota.

In addition, he is a Diplomate with the American College of Healthcare Executives and serves on several national organizations.

"I look forward to the challenges and opportunities presented here at Baptist. It's obvious to me that the Baptist Medical Center has enjoyed a long tradition of providing Christian-based, quality healthcare services," Metzner said.

"MBHS will continue building on this firm foundation by creating ways for better access to healthcare services," he added.

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

Record

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C. Gerald Cotton, MBMC executive director, said Metzner "brings to Baptist a wealth of new experience and talent. His knowledge of managed care and skill in developing the components of a healthcare system will be invaluable as we plan for the future."

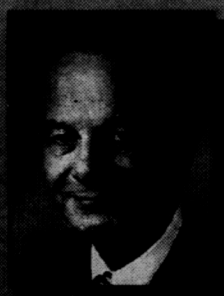
MBMC will serve as the MBHS flagship facility, the hospital spokesperson said.

(For more MBHS information, please see related article on page five.)

Beyond 2000 Conference



Rhonda Kelley (right), wife of New Orleans Secretary president Chuck Kelley, talks with Cindy Simpson, wife of Williamville Church pastor Allen Simpson, at the Beyond 2000 conference for minister's wives at the First Baptist Church in Madison on Feb. 27. The institute focused on planning for the future and raising the profile of the ministry. Photo by Gayle H. Smith.



THE METZNER FILE

Feb. 1997-Present
President/Chief Executive Officer
Mississippi Baptist Healthcare System, Inc.
Jackson, Miss.

1990-97
President/Chief Executive Officer
Horizon Healthcare, Inc.
(healthcare network system)
Milwaukee, Wis.

1989-90
Senior Vice-President
Dennis R. Moser & Associates
(hospital consulting firm)
Kingwood, Texas

1987-89
President and Chief Operating Officer
Acute Care Group, Baptist Hospitals & Health Systems
(three-state healthcare system)
Phoenix, Ariz.

1973-87
Senior Vice-President/Operations (1985-87)
Senior Vice-President/Corporate (1976-85)
Fairview Hospitals and Healthcare System
(first non-Catholic healthcare system in U.S.)
Minneapolis, Minn.

1965-73
Senior Consultant
Hamilton/KSA
(hospital consulting firm)
Minneapolis, Minn.

Source: Mississippi Baptist Medical Center
Public Relations Department

Ministers finding out IRS is no pushover

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Churches and their employees should understand and follow tax rules carefully, according to several Southern Baptist ministers who have been audited by the Internal Revenue Service.

Citing privacy concerns, most of the ministers interviewed by Baptist Press asked that their real names not be used, but all

curate records can be even worse than no records at all. Bob, a pastor from the Midwest, was asked during an IRS audit to provide copies of minutes from his church's business meetings.

When the IRS examined the amount Bob and his wife, Mary, had reported as income, it was less than what the church minutes reflected as annual salary.

Three years before the audit, when Bob first came to the church, an inaccurate figure was recorded in the church's minutes, reflecting a few thousand dollars more than Bob actually received annually.

"We even showed in the church budget where the church didn't pay us the larger amount," Mary said, "but the IRS assumed we made the higher

Still, when Marvin filed his annual tax returns, he followed IRS guidelines and paid all the self-employment tax due, even though he knew it was being duplicated by the church's payments on his behalf.

Upon auditing Marvin's tax return, the IRS assumed Marvin was receiving two equal salaries from the church: 1) an amount for being pastor, for which Marvin had paid self-employment taxes and 2) an amount for non-ministerial services, for which the church had paid an employer's matching portion.

In reality, Marvin said, his income was only half what the IRS assumed for purposes of calculating his back taxes, interest, and penalties.

When Marvin informed the IRS of the church's insistence on treating him as an employee, the auditor told Marvin there was a simple solution: Have the church file for a refund of the employer's matching portion.

The IRS would then recalculate and assume Marvin had only been paid as pastor and not in some other capacity as well.

"When I asked the treasurer to do this, she went ballistic," Marvin recounted. "She called the finance committee together, most of whom were deacons and trustees. They wouldn't budge. It was simply a matter of putting the preacher in his place."

"The church wasn't willing to admit they hadn't followed the instructions, so I basically just lost \$10,000. It wouldn't have cost them a dime to fill out the forms."

Marvin said his only legal recourse would have been to sue the church, which he never seriously considered. Soon after the controversy, he resigned the church and is now a bivocational pastor.

All the ministers interviewed stressed the importance of having a certified public accountant prepare tax returns.



expressed eagerness to help others understand what an audit can entail.

"Keep good records — not just good records but excellent records," said Ted, an evangelist from Oklahoma who is still working through an IRS audit that began two years ago.

"Canceled checks won't be enough. You will need other documentation, like utility bills, church giving statements, and actual receipts," he said.

Leon, an associational director of missions in Alabama, agreed.

"If the minister is a pastor or other church staff person, then they'd better keep a record of miles traveled, dates, odometer readings, and the business purpose of the trips."

"The first thing the auditor told me was, 'Let me see your mileage log.'"

Sometimes inac-

curate records can be even worse than no records at all. Bob, a pastor from the Midwest, was asked during an IRS audit to provide copies of minutes from his church's business meetings.

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All the ministers interviewed stressed the importance of having a certified public accountant prepare tax returns.

Audit triggers

By Richard R. Hammar
Springfield, Mo. attorney/tax specialist

- ◆ Filing as self-employed instead of as a church employee for income-tax purposes. "The number one red flag for the IRS is when a minister files as self-employed," Hammar stated. "In doing so, you probably increase your income audit risk 10 times. However, a minister who reports his income tax as an employee has the ordinary audit risk of only about 1%."
- ◆ Claiming a deduction for a home office. "It is so remote that anybody, ministers included, can qualify for a home office deduction that it has become an audit trigger," Hammar warned.
- ◆ Using Schedule A. "Most of the audit battles are on Schedule A," Hammar observed. "They're going to look at your medical expenses, state taxes, mortgage interest, and charitable contributions, but if you have enough deductions for Schedule A, you should go ahead and use it."

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Mississippi Baptist family
for your tremendous gen-
erosity and faithfulness to
God in tithes and offerings.



Because of your sacrificial giving in the last
two years our colleges have received
\$858,000 over and above funds received
from the MBCB budget.
Funds received by the MBCB
beyond budget requirements
are placed in a "challenge
fund" and the colleges have
received 50% of that amount to educate
your youth in a Christian environment.
Thanks to the Mississippi Baptist family!!



Q&A: What is new healthcare system?

Q: What is the new Mississippi Baptist Health Systems, Inc. (MBHS)?

A: MBHS was created as the parent company of Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, Inc. (MBMC), Mississippi Hospital for Restorative Care, Inc., and other healthcare services. The MBHS corporate structure allows for additional companies and joint ventures to be created, such as the Baptist Healthplex now under construction at Baptist-affiliated Mississippi College in Clinton.

Q: Why was MBHS created?

A: As managed care assumes a greater role in delivery of healthcare services, the MBMC board of trustees wanted to ensure the Mississippi Baptist healthcare system will be able to offer a complete array of health services now and in the future.

Based on the same strong Christian foundation that led to the establishment of MBMC in 1911, MBHS was created in September 1996.

Q: What will be the role of MBMC in the new system?

A: MBMC will be the flagship of the new MBHS system, and will be strengthened by the resources and referrals generated by the MBHS initiatives. C. Gerald Cotton, MBMC associate director since 1990, has been named by the board of trustees as executive director of the medical center.

Q: How will these changes affect the public?

A: Greater emphasis will be placed on access to primary care services and wellness/preventative healthcare. MBHS is more than a "hospital." It will offer a variety of healthcare services to meet the ever-changing needs of those people served by the system.

Q: How will MBHS compare to other systems in the area?

A: Other hospitals in the area have changed corporate structure and are now

identified as a "system" of healthcare services. The Baptist system already has several component services in place, such as home health care, primary care clinics, and fitness facilities.

Additionally, there are affiliations with 28 community hospitals through the Cardiac Emergency Network, and eight hospitals participate in the Premier Healthcare Alliance group purchasing program.

A true healthcare "system" is a network of easily accessible services which meet individual healthcare needs and provide all necessary support services for quality, cost-effective healthcare.

Q: Where can I get more information on MBHS and its components?

A: More information on MBHS can be attained by calling the medical center toll-free at (800) 948-MBMC(6262).

Source: Mississippi Baptist Medical Center
Public Relations Department

Conferences cancelled

Parenting Conferences have been cancelled for May 2-3 in Tupelo and Hattiesburg. The conferences were to be sponsored by the Equipping Team of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Plans for related training will be announced at a later date.

IRS minister audits estimated at 'normal' 1%

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (BP) — Contrary to rampant rumors, churches and ministers are not being targeted for special scrutiny by the Internal Revenue Service, said Richard R. Hammar, an attorney and specialist in tax issues for religious workers and organizations.

"It is outrageous for anyone to spread deep fear in the minds of pastors and church workers regarding the threat of IRS audits or criminal prosecutions," said Hammar, whose office is in Springfield, Mo. "It is not true. Ministers are not being targeted by the IRS any more than other taxpayers."

The IRS typically audits 5,000 ministers per year, Hammar said. "Since there are about

500,000 ministers in this country, that's only about a 1% audit rate. They're right in the mainstream, because 1% is the normal audit risk for any taxpayer."

Hammar was sharply critical of tax consultants who promote their services by using "scare tactics." One such firm sends out brochures that shows photographs of pastors in handcuffs or standing before a judge, Hammar said.

"It's easily proven that there's no campaign from the IRS against ministers and churches," Hammar said. "Anyone who says otherwise has ulterior motives. It may attract business, but it's based on a faulty and flawed premise that is being increasingly exposed."

Hammar noted a key tool for churches and ministers is the "1997 Ministers Tax Guide for 1996 Returns," available free from the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention by calling (800) 262-0511.

In his newsletter, Hammar summarized the contents of a report from the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee on nonprofit organizations.

He said the report indicates IRS resources devoted to nonprofit organizations and their workers are either staying constant or declining.

Among the statistics he cited: ♦ In 1990, the IRS employed 501 examiners of tax-exempt organizations. By 1995, the number had declined to 497.

♦ Funding for IRS oversight of exempt organizations was \$47.8 million in 1990 and \$49.2 million in 1995. "That doesn't even keep pace with inflation," Hammar said. "In real dollars, it's actually a cut."

♦ In 1990, the IRS examined 7,232 exempt organizations. By 1993, the number was only 5,472 or less than one-half of 1% of all tax-exempt organizations.

♦ In 1992 and 1993, the IRS revoked the tax-exempt status of 60 nonprofit organizations. "That's about 30 per year or only 2 out of every 100,000," Hammar said.

Hammar advises churches and their employees to maintain a keen awareness of IRS policies and to establish policies that protect both congregations and ministers in case of an audit.

Primarily, Hammar urges ministers to avoid what he calls "audit triggers," including:

Since most ministers tithe, their charitable contributions are much higher than the IRS expects, Hammar said.

In fact, some ministers include copies of their year-end church giving statements when filing income tax returns, Hammar said.

"It's not required, and very few people actually do it, but it's not a bad idea if you have large charitable contributions," he said.

"A person who tithes is automatically thrust beyond the average charitable giving rate of 3%, which is what the IRS often expects," Hammar pointed out.

"AS LONG AS I'M RIGHT NINETY PERCENT OF THE TIME, WHO CARES ABOUT THE OTHER THIRTY PERCENT?"



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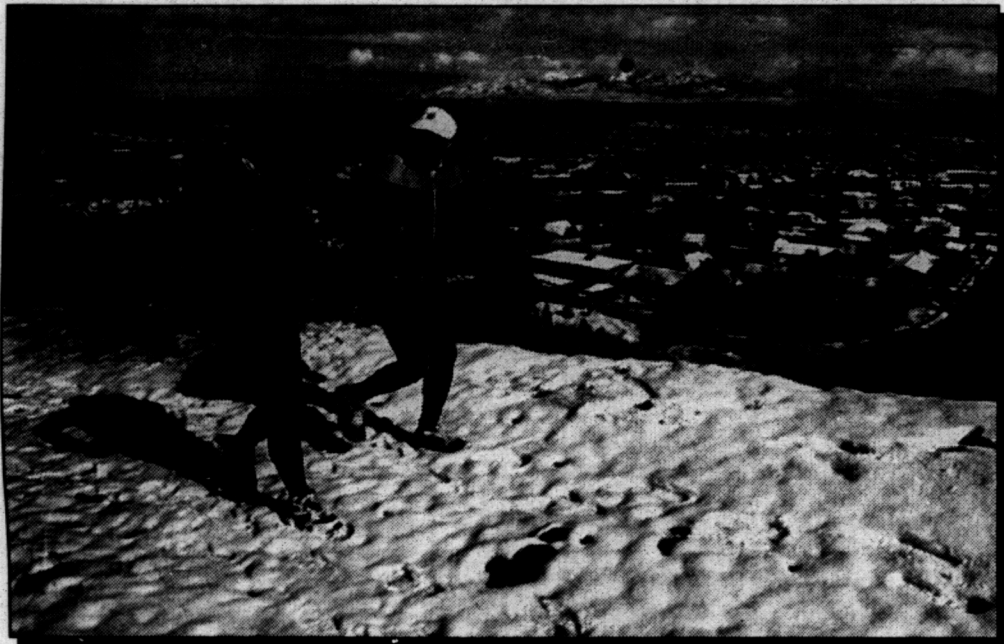
Triathlete pastor, 64, exemplifies wellness

By Charles Willis
Baptist Sunday School Board

SALT LAKE CITY (BP) — If a poster were designed to represent wellness for Southern Baptist pastors, a photograph of Andy Hornbaker running uphill might serve the purpose.

Hornbaker, pastor of Holladay Church in Salt Lake City, participated in 13 triathlons "and a few road races" last year, and he hopes to do at least that many this year.

A lifelong sports enthusiast, he has enjoyed running competitively since his high school days. He also pursues bicycling, swimming, hiking, and cross-country skiing.



RUNNING BUDDIES — Andy Hornbaker (left) and his running partner, Jim DeMet, use running time on a mountain trail above Salt Lake City, Utah, to fellowship while training for competition. (BP Photo by Jim Veneman)

Hornbaker does not exemplify wellness because he is overly muscular or in perfect health. The 64-year-old, who has adult-onset diabetes, represents those who work regularly toward a balance of spiritual, mental, physical, and emotional health.

His physical activity, in fact, has kept the diabetes under control, supplied opportunities for fellowship and outreach, given him interests that improve his enjoyment of work, and provided an overall sense of well-being.

Since Hornbaker leads a congregation of 400, his workouts are scheduled before office hours and on his days off. Rising each morning at 5, he runs on the hilly streets of his neighborhood before driving to a local recreation center to use the weight room, run in the pool, and swim.

After two hours of this cross-training routine, he studies from 8 to 9. The rest of his day is devoted to office demands and pastoral responsibilities.

On Mondays, his day off from the church, he enjoys a longer workout. Saturdays, he participates in any races that might be scheduled.

A native of Kingman, Kan., Hornbaker discovered during high school one practical benefit of being athletic. One of the coaches asked him where he planned to go to college.

Because his father had died of cancer leaving a wife and five children with little financially, Andy told the coach he did not plan to go anywhere.

"Well, of course, you will," Hornbaker recalled his coach telling him. "That's what all those letters we get from colleges are for!"

During his junior year at Kansas State College of Pittsburg (now Pittsburg State University) on a four-year scholarship, Hornbaker felt God call him to preach.

Later, his degree in physical education gained him a job as athletic director of the Fort Worth (Texas) Boys Club, a position that helped support him through Southwestern Seminary.

Running competitively was in the past, he thought, but in 1970, he volunteered to coach a cross-country team because his son wanted to run.

A year later, he began running with the Southern Colorado Striders in Colorado Springs. In 1973, he ran 13 miles from Manitou Springs straight to the top of Pike's Peak to set a record of 2 hours, 39 minutes, and 46 seconds.

Over the years during pastorates in Colorado, Kansas, and Utah, Hornbaker, his wife JoAnn and their seven children have been involved to varying degrees in sports.

Hornbaker said he believes his athletic hobbies help him relate better to youth. "We go on campouts," he said, "and we have backpacking trips."

Hornbaker's advice to pastors and other church staff is "you ought to do something" for physical well-being.

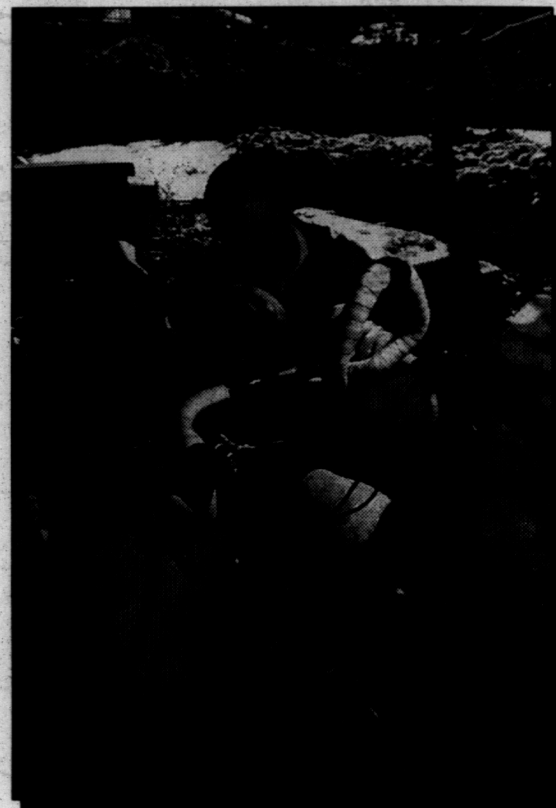
"There's some pressure in ministry," he said. "There are problems anywhere if you work with human beings."

Not everyone needs to be a triathlete or participate in as many sports as he enjoys, Hornbaker said, but working out makes him "feel better. I think better. And I experience the emotional benefit."

Last year, the Baptist Sunday School Board enlarged its services to ministers and their families through the addition of wellness consultation as a part of LeaderCare, the Sunday School Board's strategy to assist ministers in personal development.

Tommy Yessick, who leads the wellness thrust, said Hornbaker "is able to be involved in various areas of the whole church. He joins in activities from church softball games to good-natured teasing."

"He doesn't take himself so seriously that he cannot relate in a real way. His humor, exercise, dedication to his calling,



SAVING SECONDS — Andy Hornbaker does a maintenance check on his bicycle before a road workout. Keeping equipment in good condition can save precious seconds in competition. (BP Photo by Jim Veneman)

and involvement with family help him be an example of a well-balanced minister," Yessick observed.

Information on wellness resources, services and events for ministers, their spouses and their families may be obtained by contacting Yessick at the Sunday School Board at (615) 251-3846 or by electronic mail at 71173.2255@compuserve.com.

BSSB leader preaches fitness

By Charles Willis
Baptist Sunday School Board

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP) — All too often, today's definition of health is "the absence of sickness," a national specialist in wellness told participants in Rec Lab '97, Feb. 21-26 at Glorieta Conference Center.

Returning to the historic definition of health, which includes robustness in all areas of life, should be the goal of ministers who want to live a well-balanced life, said Tommy Yessick of the Baptist Sunday School Board's personal development section.

"Well-being is the result of a successfully integrated life," he said. "While being more than 'unsick,' it is a zest for life that goes beyond a momentary burst of excitement."

"The world would say wellness is physical fitness, but physical fitness is only one dimension of wellness."

Exercising 20 to 30 minutes, four to five times a week is important to wellness and can positively affect every system in the body. Nutrition, likewise,

impacts the body. Medical self-care — knowing the warning signs of cancer and knowing when and when not to go to the doctor — is a part of the physical facet of wellness, as is safety measures such as wearing seat belts and having a fire extinguisher and a fire alarm in one's home.

Wellness also includes the emotional, intellectual, social, spiritual, and vocational facets of life.

Emotional well-being includes resilience, stress management, and the appropriate expression of feelings and emotions.

Intellectual wellness is exhibited in a pattern of lifelong learning.

"You never arrive," he said. "There is always something fascinating. You are curious about how things work."

Hardiness is another quality of intellectual wellness, he said, that exhibits itself in commitment rather than alienation, control versus helplessness and being challenged instead of threatened.

Family relationships, a support network, friend-

ships, and community involvement characterize social well-being, he said.

Spiritual wellness includes a growing relationship with Christ, regular time alone for personal worship and reflection, evidence of integrity when beliefs and behaviors match and a mentor relationship with someone who is "ahead of you, spiritually."

Vocationally, ministers experience wellness when they have multiple callings — to salvation, to full-time Christian service, to a specific type of ministry and to a specific place of ministry.

Security in competence, a sense of satisfaction, awareness of appreciation from others, managed financial needs, and life circumstances that bring enrichment contribute to well-being vocationally.

Of the factors that contribute to one's wellness, Yessick said, "53% of things you do yourself can add to your quality of life. Wellness is a process that is available to everyone. Do what you can do," he urged. "Well-being will be the outcome."

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

March 13, 1997

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Office of Communication.

Southern S i n g l e s Rally

Saturday, March 22, 1997
2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Pearl River Association Lodge,
near Poplarville, Miss.



• Kindred Heart, music team

Featuring

- Door Prizes
- Refreshments
- Bar-B-Que supper



• Mike Williams, comedian

COST: \$5 by Wednesday, March 19, or \$7 at the door.

Make check payable to Pearl River Baptist Association and mail to Southern Singles Rally, 1376 McNeill-Steep Hollow Road, Carriere, MS 39426. For more information, call 601-798-2372.

1997 Smaller* Sunday School Leadership Conference

March 24: New Prospect BC, Iuka
New Prospect BC, Brookhaven

March 25: Emmanuel BC, Grenada
FBC, Lucedale

Times for all conferences will be 7-9 p.m.
No registration required.

Featuring conferences for Sunday School leaders of:

PRESCHOOLERS CHILDREN

YOUTH ADULTS

as well as for:

Sunday School GENERAL OFFICERS

PASTORS

Come be a part of this exciting conference as we look at the wonderful work that can be accomplished through Sunday School.

Sponsored by the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board,
P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.
968-3800 (in Jackson) or toll free 800-748-1651
CompuServe e-mail: 70423,151
www2.misnet.com/~ssmbcb

**Generally churches with an enrollment of 150 or less.
If you do not quite fit into this category, come on.
We would love to have you be a part of this conference.*

NEW LOCATION!

Start Something New

CELEBRATION

March 27, 1997

10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Camp Garaywa

- "How to Begin New Work"

Learn how to plan and start a new unit of mission involvement in your church or association.

- "Meet a Need in Your Community"

Conduct a project that will help to bring Mississippi and the world to Jesus.

Join us as we recognize and celebrate new work already begun.

No reservations required.

No cost to you.

The Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering is providing funds for Start Something New. The Challenge portion of that offering is the part which exceeded the 1996 goal. These funds will be available on a one-time gift of \$500 during the calendar year 1997.

For more information on these funds, contact Don Q. Wilson, Missions Extension & Associational Administration, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530, or call 800/748-1651 or 601/968-3800.

TEACHING WITH VISION WORKSHOPS

PURPOSE

To equip Sunday School and other Bible study leaders and teachers to teach with a vision for fulfilling God's mission in the world. Each person will be trained to facilitate a training session back in his/her church.

Teaching With Vision is for General Sunday School leaders, including pastor/staff, Sunday School director; adult, youth, children, preschool teachers/department leaders.

LOCATIONS

April 5

Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo

First Baptist Church, Holly Springs

N. Greenwood Baptist Church, Greenwood

April 12

Fairview Baptist Church, Columbus

Poplar Springs Drive Baptist Church, Meridian

Alta Woods Baptist Church, Jackson

April 19

First Baptist Church, McComb

First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg

First Baptist Church, Gulfport

FACULTY

State and National Sunday School leaders



Ann Edwards



David Apple



Darrell Vandergriff

SPECIAL RESOURCES

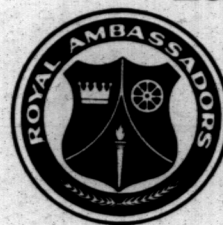
Teaching With Vision resources for interactive learning will be provided free for churches who schedule a Teaching With Vision Workshop in their church following the regional training.

CUTTING EDGE

Teaching With Vision is not the usual training. New resources and approaches which can multiply training and create a new sense of purpose and mission in Bible study will be provided.

■ NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY ■ NO COST ■

Lad/Crusader Day



May 3

Central Hills Baptist Retreat

Cost is \$3

Deadline for registration is April 28

For further information and a registration form, contact the Brotherhood Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205, or call 800/748-1651 or in Jackson 968-3800.

1997 STATE SINGLES RETREAT

"Getting on Track"

GULFSHORE BAPTIST ASSEMBLY • MAY 24-26

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Ship
Island

New Orleans

Seafood Banquet

Canoeing

Ice Cream
Fellowship

T-Shirt

Conferences:

"Recipes for Happy Singles"

"Adventure Recreation for Singles"

"Men's Ministry"

"Single-Parenting"

"Recovering from Losses"

"Spiritual Gifts"

"Women's Ministry"

"Living with Integrity"

"Start a Revolution"

Cost: \$87.60 (Unit A - two in a room) \$81.30 (Unit C - four in a room)

Send to: Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, 100 First Street,
Pass Christian, MS 39571

Church Facilities Workshop

April 15, 1997

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Park Place Baptist Church, Pearl

- Conferences involving every aspect of church facility, finance, and furnishing needs
- Consultation with conference leaders
- Lunch on site
- \$10 registration fee
- Vendors of church services and furnishings will be present

To register, send *name, address, phone number and church to:*

Church Facilities Workshop

Attention: Matt Buckles, MBCB

P.O. Box 530

Jackson, MS 39205



Celebration/Retreat

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly

April 11-12, 1997

4 p.m., Friday - noon, Saturday

Cost: \$50 - lodging, 3 meals; \$35 - meals only; \$20 - no meals, no lodging

Limited rooms are available on a first-come-first-served basis.

Full refunds until March 11 (transferable registrations only thereafter).

Mail to: WMU Conference, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, 100 First Street, Pass Christian, MS 39571

Registration

Church/Association _____ Phone _____

Contact Person _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

No. of women _____ x cost per person _____ = total enclosed \$ _____

Start a Revolution

Speakers:

Jerri Herring - consultant with the Baptist Sunday School Board
 Jim Butler - pastor at the Trinity Baptist Church in Southaven, Miss.
 Gerry Peak - minister of education at the Germantown Baptist Church in Germantown, Tenn.

Sponsored by the Sunday School Department
 of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Church Staff
 Retreat
 April 24-25, 1997

The conference starts at 1 p.m. on Thursday and ends noon on Friday. There will be no cost for the conference but room prices at the Ramada Inn are \$44 for single occupancy and \$49 for double occupancy. Please make your reservations directly with the hotel by calling 601-844-4111. To make reservations for the conference, please complete the conference reservation form and mail to the Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

Church Staff Retreat Conference Reservation Sunday School Department

Name: _____

Address: _____

Church Name and Position Held: _____

Day Time Phone Number: _____

I would be interested in an early bird golf tournament on Thursday morning.

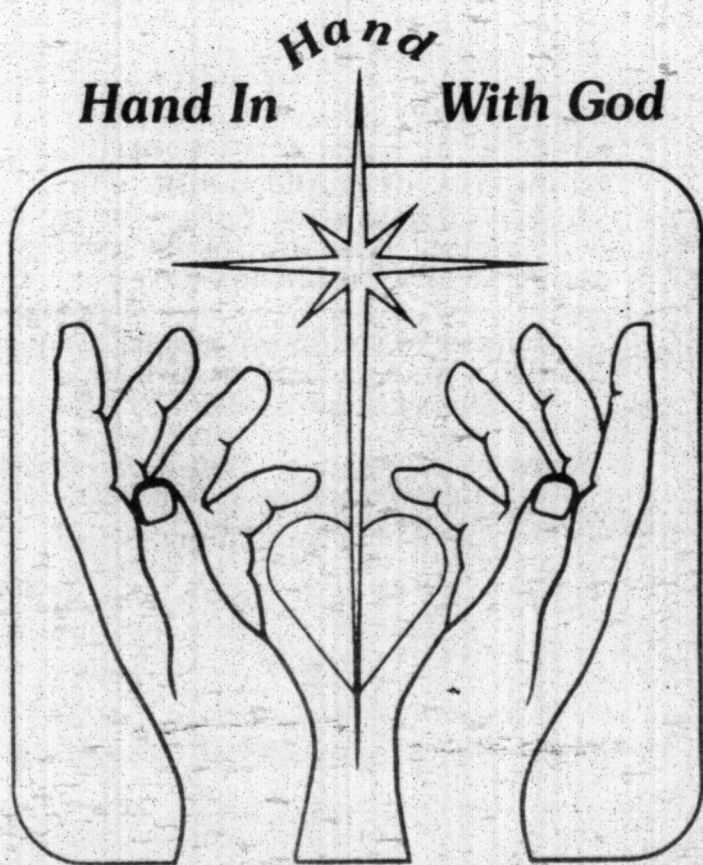
MISSISSIPPI ACTEENS CONVENTION

Ramada Inn Convention Center, Tupelo, Miss.
 April 18-19, 1997

Special Guests

- * Russell & Melinda Kyzar, missionaries
- * Jan Turrentine, editor of Accent
- * "Fishermen," Mississippi State BSU musicians

Register by April 4 using the form below:



MAC Registration Form

Church/Association _____ Phone _____

Contact Person _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please attach a list with names of girls and leaders attending.

No. of Acteens/Leaders _____ x \$25/person = Total enclosed \$ _____

(Fee includes program fee, room and one meal.)

Mail checks made payable to WMU to:

P.O. Box 530

Jackson, MS 39205-0530

Pray this day for...

Prayer Ministry Office • P. O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 968-3800, Ext. 3904 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-PRAY

"One of the greatest mistakes that a Christian can make is to imagine that increased social or spiritual activity can be any compensation for the lack of secret communion with God.... To take time out of prayer to put into service is a bad investment; but on the contrary, if the most of us took a portion of our service-time, and put it into our prayer-time, we should find that the gain was enormous."

— Method of Prayer by W. Graham Scroggie

For Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Sunday (Christian Action Commission Emphasis)

For the WMU Annual Meeting; FBC, Clinton; 1:45 pm, 17th-noon, 18th, (sponsored by WMU)

The total of Mission Service Corps volunteers is at an all-time high. Pray that enthusiasm for missions will continue and God will use the gifts of Baptists to help meet the needs of others.

The HMB Interfaith Witness Dept. reports thousands are falling to New Age attitudes & practices. Pray that Christians would continue to live as Godly witnesses and share the vital message of salvation & forgiveness of sin through Jesus.

Many churches in Taiwan are without pastors. Pray for God to call young Chinese Christians to give their lives to full-time service and for professors from the Taiwan Baptist Seminary as they speak in churches during the Seminary Day emphasis.

An estimated 1/3 of Southern Baptist missionaries use the help of volunteers in their work. Approximately 68,198 short-term volunteers served in 1995. Pray that the recent increase in volunteerism will continue.

Over 2,400 Southern Baptist-endorsed chaplains served at military bases, institutions, & businesses in 1995. Daily, chaplains are sharing Jesus' love with the lost by going where many cannot go. Pray that more Baptists will feel led to take part in this vital ministry.

For a physician or physicians to work at Hope Medical Group, Macao, during Dr. Keith Morgan's furlough, Aug. 1997-1998. There is also a special need for assistance January 1998 through June 1998.

For Small Church Sunday School Leadership Conferences; New Prospect BC, Iuka/New Prospect BC, Brookhaven; 7-9 pm (Sunday School Dept.)

State Senior Adult Choir Festival; FBC, Clinton (Church Music Dept.). For Small Church Sunday School Leadership conferences; Emmanuel BC, Grenada/FBC, Lucedale (Sunday School Dept.).

1/3 of recently converted adults report that personal witness, an example of Christian living or friendship influenced their decision. Pray that God will continue to reach the lost through such contacts and that lives would be changed through Christ.

For Start Something New Celebration; Camp Garaywa; 10 am-3:30 pm (Witness & Bible Study Teams).

State Youth Choir Festival; 21st-22nd, (Church Music Dept.). Fellowship Officers & Area Coordinators; 21st-22nd (Brotherhood Dept.). South Miss. Baptist Conference of the Deaf Bible Study; 21st-23rd (MEAA).

For Church Weekday Education Clinic; FBC, Jackson; 9 am-3 pm (Discipleship and Family Ministry Dept.)



APRIL

4-89 MR. TIMOTHY N. TROTTER, P. O. Box 5113, Stanger 4450, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
Parents: Frank & Dede, General Evangelism

10-81 MISS LAURA R. HEARN
425 Ford Street, Columbia, MS 39429
Parents: James G. & Brenda H., General Evangelism; TOGO

10-79 MR. MICAH P. THORNTON, Apartado 58 Bulevares, Edo. de Mexico, 53140 MEXICO
Parents: Harold L. & Susan M., Financial Administrator

11-92 MR. DREW BRASWELL, #70117 Caixa Postal 61 89.802-970 Chapeco, SC, BRAZIL
Parents: Larry & Alicia, Outreach Evangelism

20-88 Mr. John McCall
P.O. Box 5864, Tanga, TANZANIA
Parents: Dennis F. & Margaret, Agriculture

21-86 MR. EDDIE JONES, c/o Arkansas Baptist Convention P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72201-0552
Parents: Eddie & Barbara, Church Planter/Strategist

23-79 MR. ADAM L. GRAVES
Casilla 1417, Concepcion, CHILE
Parents: Edgar L. & Marilyn L., General Evangelism

25-88 MR. PHILIP M. HEARN
425 Ford Street, Columbia, MS 39429
Parents: James G. & Brenda H., General Evangelism; TOGO

29-81 MISS KITTY M. THORNTON, Apartado 58 Bulevares, Edo. de Mexico, 53140 MEXICO
Parents: Harold L. & Susan M., Financial Administration



PUT SOME SIZZLE IN YOUR SUMMER!

WOMAN'S WEEKENDER!
June 26-30, 1997
Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center
Ridgecrest, North Carolina

Cost: \$289
(covers transportation on motorcoach, two nights lodging at Holiday Inn, and your room and board at Ridgecrest)

The weekender, for women only, will provide three special days of Bible study, prayer, ministry ideas, personal spiritual growth conferences, missions encounters, music, and fellowship. Featured guests will include Christian music artist Karla Worley, author and speaker Barbara Joiner, and popular speaker and writer Rhonda Kelley.

To reserve your place at this first ever Woman's Weekender, your name and a \$100 deposit is due by April 1, 1997.

For more information, contact Jan Cossitt in the WMU office at 968-3800 or 1-800-748-1651.

HOUSE TOPS

Venezuelan newspaper notes partnership trip

By Tim Nicholas
MBCB Communications Director

A medical-dental mission trip to Venezuela in February under the auspices of the Mississippi Baptist partnership with Venezuelan Baptists drew the attention of a secular newspaper in that South American country.

A page one story in "La Manana" newspaper in the community of Coro noted, "That these medical specialists should leave their homes and take part of their vacation time to work here or in some other part of the world in order to help a neighbor in need, for the love of Christ, is highly commendable."

In addition to the positive press, the Venezuelan people reached by the volunteers were responsive.

More than five hundred professions of faith were reported by the 56 participants.

Some participants were first timers, but many counted multiple trips — one was on his 16th mission trip.

The trip was staffed by 54 people from Tenn., La., Texas, and N.C. — plus two Mississippians.

Led by Dewey Dunn, a Nashville gastroenterologist who teaches at Vanderbilt's medical school, the group served in five locations around Valencia.

Dunn said, "I was personally blessed to

have six persons receive Christ at my desk."

Said volunteer June Noland of Mantee, "How great to see and be a part of God's work by helping to spread the gospel in places where people are so hungry to hear it."

Norma Faulkner, also of Mantee, said, "The worship services with the people of Venezuela were one of the greatest blessings..."

"I thank God for inviting me to join him in his work."

Tenn. pharmacist Bob Hudson said he went to Venezuela to show Jesus. "Instead I found Jesus anew and afresh myself on the faces of the Venezuelan people."

A number of volunteers wrote that they were thankful to God for allowing them to make the trip — making it clear that they were the recipients of blessings, rather than simply the givers.

Stephanie Tyler, a Tenn. nurse and prayer leader for the group, said she had only seen pictures and heard stories of missionaries.

"Never before have I had the chance to help participate in missions with the leadership of the missionary," she said.

Linda Mills of Tenn. reported that in one clinic, "We gave a pair of glasses to a little lady who kept reading the tract we gave her... then she would stop, lift her hands to the sky, praising the Lord, and continue reading again."

Bill Hardy, coordinator of the Partnership Office at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, said the partnership with Venezuela continues with another group of 22 Mississippians leaving for the Valencia area for revivals and street witnessing. He said the original request was for 50 people.

A medical-dental project in July will require 36 people; another in August requires 100 people. Several Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union teams will go in April and May to provide leadership training.

"Two or three construction projects desperately need help in erecting chapel buildings," said Hardy.

Those interested in any of these projects — to go or to help fund another's trip, should contact Hardy at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.



Last call: Colorado volunteers

Prentiss Association in Booneville is making a final call for volunteers to assist in a June 7-15 project in Colorado Springs, Colo., to build a church building. Cost for the trip will be \$280 including lodging, travel, and two meals per day. The deadline for reservations is April 7.

For more information, contact John Jacobs at P.O. Box 42, Booneville, MS 38829. Telephone: (601) 728-5138, or call the MBCB Partnership Missions Office at (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

Arabs, Chinese in Venezuela

MARACAIBO, Venezuela (BP) — Not all unreached people groups live in "the 10/40 Window" — that vast belt of population stretching through the Middle East, China and India.

Fully 1 million Arabs live in Venezuela, and as the board shifts its focus from countries to the ethnic people groups who populate countries, the missionaries' strategy group

has discovered Venezuelan Arabs have been cut off from the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In addition to Arabs, a significant number of Chinese people and unreached tribal groups populate Venezuela.

Statistical studies show Chinese people of Venezuela have been evangelized to a greater degree than Arabic populations.

Several Chinese-speaking churches have been started and now have Chinese-speaking pastors. Missionaries are studying how many of Venezuela's tribal groups are yet unreached and how many have been reached but not completely evangelized.

Mississippi partnership teams need volunteers for Venezuela, Colorado mission work

Project	Persons Needed	Location	Dates
WMU Training	Team of 3 Need 1 more	Caracas & Valencia, Venez.	April 3-13, 1997
WMU Training	Team of 3 Need 3	Maracaibo & Barquisimeto, Venezuela	April 17-27, 1997
WMU Training	Team of 3 Need 3	Maracaibo, Venezuela	May 15-25, 1997
VBS Team	Team of 14 Need 8	Rubio, Venez.	June 15-27, 1997
Construction	Team of 12 Need 8 (urgent need for 2 block layers)	Barquisimeto, Venezuela	April 5-14, 1997
Construction	Team of 12	Caracas, Venez.	ASAP
Construction	Team of 10	Porlamar, Venezuela	Open - March thru May 30, 1997
Medical/Evangelism	2 Teams (9 per team)	Barquisimeto, Venezuela	July 4-14, 1997
Medical/Evangelism	13 Teams (8 per team)	Valencia, Venezuela	August 29-September 8, 1997
Construction	Team of 10-15	Monte Vista, Colorado	Summer of 1997
Construction	Team of 5-10	Deer Trail, Colorado	Spring of 1997 (flexible)
Construction	8 Teams	Aurora, Colorado	1st team - ASAP

For more information about these projects contact the Partnership Missions Office, PO Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. Telephone (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

Are your seniors tired of crawling over the HUMP? The solution is a 15-passenger van with an aisle, raised roof & electric step.

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Clue: I equals W
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Version Bible verse has been
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The same letter is substituted
throughout the puzzle. Solve
by trial and error. Answer to
last week's puzzle: John
Eleven Twenty-Five.



Mulhollen

Steven Mulhollen of Glen Burnie, MD, (right) a junior Christian Studies major at Mississippi College, is the recipient of the Therman Bryant Memorial Scholarship.

Pictured with Mulhollen is Steve Wilson, a member of the Board of Ministerial Education of the Mississippi Baptist Convention which administers this scholarship.

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JUST FOR THE RECORD

First Church, Pearl, will present its annual Passion Play entitled "Written in Red" on March 22 and 23 at 7 p.m. in the main worship center. "Written in Red" is a sight and sound presentation of the last week of the life of Christ before his crucifixion. The presentation includes music and drama from the worship choir of First Church depicting the dramatic

events of Easter. Call (601) 939-4476 for tickets (free) and further information.

Covington - Jefferson Davis Association held its annual Pastor/Deacon/Staff/Spouse Banquet on Feb. 28 with 375 in attendance.

GAs (4th-6th grade) and Acteens (7th-12th grade) of

First Church, Greenwood, attended a special GA/Acteen Day at Mississippi College, Feb. 22. Pictured (from left, back row) are Sherry Thomas, Anna Miller, Memrie McCaleb, Crystal Lee Fleming, Casie



Burt, Kassie Buck; (front row) Janna Courtney, Angela Corley, and Andrey Harris. Beth Aden

is Acteen director. Tammy Baine, Jerri Geeslin, and Peggy Gordon, are GA leaders.

BAPTIST COLLEGE NEWS



Cross Section is the performing arts drama ministry of the Baptist Student Union of Mississippi College. Members (from left) are John Tramel, Justin Knight, Dade Dowdle, Clay Polson, James Cheatham, Kacey Sumrall, Ashley Richardson, Stephanie Coker, and Mary Ellen Foster.

William Carey College will host Preview Day for high school seniors and transfer students on March 22. Information will be provided on admission procedures, academic programs, residence life, student activities, and student support services. Reservations should be called to (601) 582-6103 or (800) 962-5991.

William Carey College Speech and Debate Team (Forensics) placed first overall in the Mississippi Intercollegiate Forensics Championships in Fulton.

The team also received six individual first place awards. The Crusader Forensics Team's next competition will be at the Pi Kappa Delta (forensics honorary) national tournament in Cincinnati, Ohio.

REVIVAL DATES

Enon, Grenada: March 16-19; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jerry Mixon, Lucedale, evangelist; Bruce Hardy, music; Al Finch, pastor.

Temple, Jackson: March 16-19; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Scott Copeland, Mineral Wells, Texas, evangelist; Scott Worley, pastor.

Cascilla (North Central): March 16-20; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 7 p.m.; Tom Atwood, Oxford, evangelist; Todd Rodgers, Canada, music; David Sapp, pastor.

First, Calhoun, Calhoun: March 16-19; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekdays, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Bob Hamilton, pastor of evangelism, New Orleans.

Seminary, evangelist; Stan Loyd, Pascagoula, music; Anthony S. Kay, pastor.

Kirkville (Itawamba): March 21-23; Roy Hawkins, guest speaker; Len Sullivan, pastor.

Moaka Creek, Summit: March 14-16; Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; John Wilson, formerly of South Africa; Marshall McLaughlin, Moaka Creek; Billy J. Howae, pastor.

Blythe Creek, Mathiston: April 6-8; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jimmy Hale, Mathiston, evangelist; Danny Lewis, pastor.



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SUNDAY SCHOOL SICK? Attend the 2nd annual National Sunday School Conference, May 7-9 at First Baptist Church, Muscle

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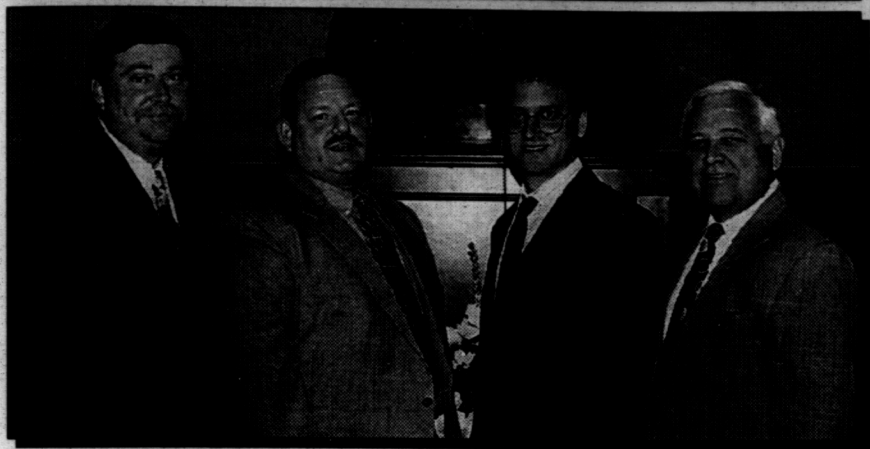
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NAMES IN THE NEWS



Immanuel Church, Hattiesburg, recently ordained three new deacons. Pictured (from left) are **Bruce Todd**, **Wayne Landers**, **Rick Chatham**, and **Nathan L. Barber Sr.**, pastor.



Highland Church, Crystal Springs, licensed **Perry White** to the ministry. He is currently serving as minister of music at Highland Church and may be contacted at (601) 892-4033 or his home, 892-5962. Pictured (from left) are **Mike Fort**, pastor, and **White**.



Jehu Brabham, administrator of Parkway Church, Clinton, was presented the Citizen-of-the-Year award at the Clinton Chamber of Commerce annual banquet. Brabham, who also serves as a Clinton alderman, was recognized for his continuing service to the community. Pictured (from left) are **Norman Gough**, administrative assistant at First Church, Clinton, and **Brabham**.

J. Harold Jones, 83, died Feb. 25 in Vicksburg. A native of Benton, La., Jones was a gradu-

ate of Louisiana College and New Orleans Seminary. He was pastor of Calvary Church, Vicksburg; Straight Bayou Church, Anguilla; Goodyear Church, Picayune; and Leesburg Church, Morton. He served as first dean for the Vicksburg extension of the Mississippi Baptist Seminary. Survivors include his wife Beatrice; sons, David Harold Jones, Greenville, S. C., James Ronald Jones, Nashville, Tenn., and Daniel

Wayne Jones, Clinton; and brother **Clifford Jones**, Benton, La

Bob Mamrak, bivocational pastor of New Zion Church, Weir, will exhibit paintings in his first Jackson area art show throughout March and April. The paintings featured during March will be centered on an Easter theme.

Secular art will be on exhibit throughout April. Mamrak, who is also an art teacher at Weir and Ackerman high schools, will display some 40 oil and acrylic paintings at Ridgeland Public Library, located at 397 Highway 51, Ridgeland. The phone number for the library is (601) 856-4536.

Brian Winders was licensed to the ministry by Cedarcrest Church, Baton Rouge, La. He is the son of Tommy and Diane Winders and former member of Harrisburg Church, Tupelo. Winders is currently attending New Orleans Seminary.

Recent Women's Conference at Broadmoor Church, Jackson featured **Donna Douglas**, Elly Mae from "The Beverly Hillbillies." GA girls served as



servers and runners during the conference. Pictured are (top) **Donna Douglas**; (middle row) **Brittney Williams**, **Anna Catherine Price**, **Allyce Wilbanks**, **Amy Wright**, **Melody Hansen**; (bottom row) **Elizabeth Roper**, **Kimberly Tullos**. Also helping, not pictured are **Jessica Bunting**, **Lacey Rostyak**, and **Brittany Fondren**.

Wallace Clark is available for supply the second and fourth Sundays of the month and all Sunday nights. He is pastor of Galilee Church, Hazlehurst, which has services on the first, third, and fifth Sunday mornings only. Clark may be contacted at P. O. Box 94, Silver Creek, MS 39663, or call (601) 886-7354.

Staff Changes

Sebastopol Church, Scott Association, has called **Maria Leach** as minister of music effective Feb. 2. A native of Sebastopol, Leach received her education at Mississippi College. **David Sartin** is pastor.

Bethesda Church, Terry, has called **Hope Eavenson** as part-time youth minister effective Jan. 5. Eavenson is a graduate of Mississippi College where she served as Baptist Student

Union president during her senior year. She has previously served as summer youth intern at Pine Lake Church, Brandon, and as summer missionary with the Minnesota/Wisconsin Convention. She is a social worker at Resource Center Network, a shelter for abused and battered women and children.

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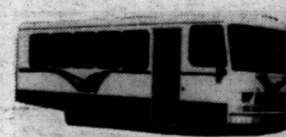
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JUST FOR THE RECORD



Liberty Church, Union Association, recently held its first Acteen recognition. Acteens pictured (from left) are Kellie Pickens, Christy Murrah, Jackye Seger, and Jenny Tate. Dana Pickens is Acteen director.

Jones County Association will sponsor a women's celebration "Encouragement in the Midst of Discouragement," March 21-22 at Houston Road Church. The times are Friday, 6:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon. The guest speaker is Debbie Childers of Gadsden, Ala. Childers, a certified

Human Behavior Consultant, uses fun learning techniques to teach important lessons. Cynthia Wallace, a native of Laurel, will have charge of the music. Wallace, a graduate of Mississippi College, lives in Mendenhall and is minister of music at Goodwater Church, Magee.



The Mississippi Baptist Convention's Education Commission recently held a recognition dinner meeting at Mississippi College (MC). Special guests honored included current full-time employees of MC who have 30 years of service. Seated from left are Van D. Quick, vice president for Alumni and Student Affairs; Sam Hall, superintendent of campus and grounds; Patricia Walston, assistant professor music; and Billy Trotter, assistant professor of music. Standing from left are Linuel Jayroe, professor of education; Gerald Claxton, assistant professor of music; Charles Bolton, physical plant-grounds department; John Legg, head of chemistry; Bill Lytal, head of department of communication, and MC president Howell W. Todd.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CHURCH HERE TO STAY

Editor:

This letter is in response to the letters written concerning Promise Keepers (PK)! I would wish to reason that any organization which promotes unity, fellowship, and responsibility among men would be a great thing to belong to and promote. I guess that because you can be "saved" at a PK meeting, that also makes it a good place to be at the moment.

One must realize that Promise

Keepers is "man-made!" Somewhere down the line someone with the right money can come along and these institutions can flip-flop owners faster than a used car lot! Or, even yet, years down the road, PK will be old and gray-headed, and minus the "Joshua and Caleb" spirit it takes to keep the dream alive.

The church, on the other hand is as eternal as Jesus is (Matt. 16:18)! The church wasn't man's idea — she was God's. No one can steal God's idea or purchase with money what has already been purchased with the precious blood of Jesus (Acts 20:28)!

Yes, PK one day will be insolvent, but the church is here to stay and will be in Heaven to stay! So, let's not equate PK to the Church of Christ! Let it not be a substitute, filler, addition, helper, or arm of the church! If we could get half as excited about all of the promises of the church as we are about the seven promises of PK, what sort of church would we have?

David A. Crowe
Meadville

ENJOYED GAZA ARTICLE

Editor:

I cannot begin to express the extent of my enjoyment of the (Jan. 23 article on the Gaza Baptist deaf ministry in Israel).

You see, I was blessed with a grandfather who was a deaf mute. My mother was a single mom, so we lived with "Poppy" and he was very instrumental in my upbringing.

I was never embarrassed about his handicap. In fact, I was very proud of all the things he could do. By the way, you could not beat him at checkers!

He has been gone 26 years and I still miss him as much as

when God took him home.

Anyway, that is why I enjoyed this article so much. Our everyday life is so busy and congested with world problems, we forget the needs that are being met by our missionaries.

We also forget, at times, to pray for missionaries' needs. I keep a prayer journal of names and needs that come to my attention and I have added Becky Walker and the many others who minister to the deaf.

God bless Becky and all missionaries around the world and at home! God bless Mike Creswell for this wonderful article and "The Baptist Record" for the work that you do!

Myra Lanham
Booneville

LYING BRINGS CURSE

Editor:

If these people who worship a false god go out and lie against the people of the Lord God, can they overcome them by lies? Whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven in this age or in the age to come (Matt. 12:32).

Ahab, king of Israel, and his wife Jezebel didn't worship God but instead worshipped a Satanic demon named Baal of the Canaanites. Ahab got upset because Naboth refused to sell him a vineyard. Jezebel had two men bring false charges against Naboth. The people took Naboth outside the city and stoned him to death.

This brought a curse from the Lord God upon Ahab and Jezebel. Elijah the prophet delivered a message of judgment to King Ahab, prophesying the kingdom would be taken from him and his descendants would be destroyed. King Ahab was killed and

Jezebel was eaten by dogs at the Wall of Jezreel (1 Kings 22:29-40), (2 Kings 9:30-37).

If someone lies against a person that has the Holy Spirit, that is why disaster after disaster comes upon these liars until they are consumed. Eph. 5:11 states, "Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them."

Bobby Carl Hill
Collinsville

SEEKING EXCELLENCE

Editor:

I am working with the Alabama Baptist State Convention to collect examples of excellent programs/ministers on the following topics:

- Involving members in church life and ministry
- Church mission statement
- Discipleship development
- Raising money for ministry and missions

- Communications within the outside the church

- Other topics of concern to the local church

This collection will be published under the working title, "60 Examples of Excellence." It will be shared with churches in Alabama and across the Southern Baptist Convention.

We are seeking individuals who will write briefly about a successful program in their church.

We will provide the topic area and a writing guide.

The writers who are published will receive appreciation and recognition for their work and the work of their church.

Individuals may write for details to Hoyt R. Wilson, 3736 Brookwood Rd., Birmingham, AL 35223.

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NOBTS choir tours state



The Seminarians, a men's choir from New Orleans Seminary (NOBTS), will be in concert at several Mississippi churches during the month of March.

Concerts will feature songs from a variety of styles, including spirituals, gospel songs, contemporary anthem literature and classical church music.

The Seminarians are students preparing for ministry at points world-wide. They are under the direction of Ken Gabrielse, NOBTS assistant professor of church music; accompanist is Becky Parker Lombard, NOBTS assistant professor of organ and music theory.

The Seminarians will sing at the following Mississippi churches:

- March 16 at 11 a.m., First Church, Philadelphia
- March 16 at 6:30 p.m., First Church, Jackson
- March 17 at 8:15 p.m., Mississippi College in Clinton
- March 18 at 1 p.m., William Carey College in Hattiesburg

The Seminarians are presented by the seminary's Division of Church Music Ministries.

LIFE AND WORK

Christ the Restorer

Matthew 26:31-75

By Thad Moore

People used to work for the same company until they retired. Those companies were loyal to their employees. People used to join a church and stay there until their death. Unfortunately loyalty is often a word used to describe past behavior in our society. Christians need to be sure loyalty is used in the present tense to describe their walk with Christ.

A promised loyalty (31-35). Jesus was in the last days of his earthly life. Soon he would be arrested and crucified. He knew how difficult the next hours would be. He told the disciples they would not support him in his time of need. Peter abruptly responded to

Jesus. He was certain he would never fall away. However, he lacked the proper understanding of himself and the situation to make such bold statements. Perhaps Peter thought Jesus was going to lead a political revolution. Thoughts of power and glory entered Peter's mind. He had forgotten Jesus' ministry was one of weakness and humiliation. Peter had also forgotten the cost of following Christ. Have you?

Faltering Loyalty (50B-51, 56B). Jesus was betrayed by Judas. Judas came to Jesus and kissed him so the chief priest would know whom to arrest. One of Jesus' companions, probably Peter (John 18:10)



Moore

drew his sword and cut off the ear of the high priest's servant. Jesus rebuked him and healed the servant. Violence always produces more violence and heartache.

Jesus spoke to the crowd and reminded them he was not leading a rebellion. Christ told them that all this was happening as a fulfillment of scripture, probably Isaiah 55 and Psalm 22.

Theodore Roosevelt said, "It is better to be faithful than famous." In Judas' situation he was unfaithful and famous. Whatever Judas' motivation, he is a powerful warning to all who claim the name of Christ. We are to be faithful to Jesus, regardless of the situation.

A Renewed Loyalty (57-58). Jesus' captor's took him to Caiaphas, the high priest. Peter followed — at a distance. None of the other disciples were there and Peter seemed to

be making good on his earlier promise to stand by Christ.

At this point Peter is to be applauded. He was with Jesus during some of the most difficult times anyone could experience. Loyalty is being there for others when they need us the most. Someone has rightly said, "A friend in need is a friend indeed." During the civil war General Ulysses Grant told General Sherman that if needed, he would come for him, no matter when, no matter what, no matter where. Some historians believe this assurance was the reason that Sherman was such a fierce fighter. Let it be said of Christians that we are faithful to Christ and his commands, no matter what the cost.

Abandoned Loyalty (69-75). Christ's prediction of Peter's denial came true. The denials increased in intensity. The first denial was a simple declaration. The second denial was an oath. In the third denial Peter was willing to bring a curse on

himself. After Peter's denial he went outside and wept bitterly. In contrast to Judas it is obvious Peter was genuinely sorry for his sin. Peter was stripped of his arrogance and stood before God in need of grace.

The lesson concludes in verse seventy-five. But the story of Peter's life goes on. God is gracious in spite of sin. Peter, like the prodigal son, was restored. In John 21 Jesus lovingly restored Peter. Peter became a leader in the early church. He preached the gospel leading many to Christ, and performed miracles. God was not through with Peter.

God wants us all to be completely loyal to him. However, we are humans and we fail at times. If your loyalty is limping, go back to Christ and let him restore your commitment. God turned Peter the denier into Peter the defender of the faith. He can do the same for you.

Moore is pastor, First Church, Holly Springs.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Be open to the truth

Matthew 26:57-27, 31

By Mark Long

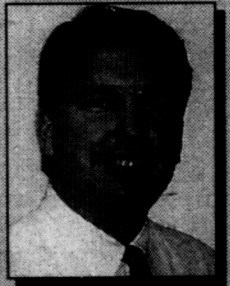
Why would knowledgeable people like the chief priests, the Sanhedrin, Judas, Pilot, even Peter deny Jesus' true identity. The current passage contains three examples of how, or why, people deny Jesus: being closed minded, following the false leading of others, and giving priority to personal concerns.

Those with Closed Minds (26:62-66). Matthew recorded that Jesus stood before the Sanhedrin. False testimonies were given. No witnesses, except two concerning the Temple, agreed. No hard evi-

dence of a capital offense was found. Jesus remained silent concerning the false testimony.

The high priest charged Jesus to plainly state if he was the Messiah, the Son of God. Jesus broke his silence to defend the truth. Jesus went on to instruct the Sanhedrin that recognizing him as Messiah was not nationalism (anti-Roman), it was theological. He was a human Messiah, but he was also the heavenly Son of Man, sitting at God's right hand, sharing God's glory and reign.

This proved too much for the



Long

Sanhedrin. Although there was no technical blasphemy committed, the Sanhedrin accepted it as blasphemy. After all, their minds were already closed to the truth. They had been seeking to eliminate Jesus for quite some time.

I have not discovered a way to break through to a mind which has closed itself to the truth. However, Jesus knew what was in the Sanhedrin, and he spoke anyway. We also must be willing to suffer any cost to defend the truth of who Christ is, even with people who are closed-minded to it.

Those Who Let Others Lead Them Astray (27:20-23). While Jesus was before Pilot, Matthew again reports that he remained silent concerning

false testimony, but did defend the truth (27:11).

Pilot, not finding Jesus guilty, allowed the crowd to determine his judgment on Jesus' life. "I'll wash my hands of this. Let them decide. Then it will be their fault." We live in a democratic republic. Our churches are congregational. We understand what it is for the majority to make the decision. However, the crowd can not be responsible for my decision about Jesus.

"You can please some of the people some of the time, but you can't please all the people all of the time." Pilot not only tried to hide in the crowd, he tried to please the crowd. We must not live in hiding or to please men. We will all be responsible directly to God for our lives. No one else will take the blame or credit.

Those Who Give Priority to

Personal Concern (27:24-26).

Though Pilot apparently wanted to release Jesus, he eventually gave into the crowd when they became mob-like. Caesar did not look favorably upon governors who could not keep peace. Pilot liked his political post. So what did he do? Pacify the people. "That's the best way to get what I want, power and authority." Ironically, Pilot did not remain governor long because he could not maintain order.

When our personal concerns and agendas take precedence over Christ, we are doomed to deny Jesus as Lord of our lives.

The best defense against denying Christ is to be open to the truth of who Jesus really is. When we do this we can not help but yield to him, and like him, defend the truth.

Long is pastor, First Church, Perkinston.

FAMILY BIBLE SERIES

Pray for one another

II Thes. 1:1-12

By Mary Ellen Powell

The opportunity to pray for one another is a very special gift from God. It gives us the chance to communicate with our Heavenly Father, be part of God's work, minister to others, and receive encouragement from seeing our prayers answered.

Gracious Greeting (II Thessalonians 1:1-2). The Thessalonians needed Paul's traditional greeting of grace and peace. Today, we need grace and peace in abundance in our lives and should pray for them to abound in the lives of others.

Encouraging Gratitude (1:3-4). There is no better way to encourage someone than to point out their strengths. Paul did just that when he stated

things evidenced in the Thessalonians' lives for which he was thankful. He was thankful for their growing faith and love which are both marks of a maturing faith. Paul was also thankful for their perseverance in trials as they endured their trials and grew through them.

Following the examples of both Paul and the Thessalonians would be beneficial for us. We see in the Thessalonians the things that people should see in our lives: faith, love, and perseverance. Paul's example leads us to let others know that we are thankful for them. We should strive to find attributes in others for which we can be thankful and share our thankfulness with



Powell

them. To make our homes a place where everyone feels they are important and valued, we must let our family members know they are appreciated.

Coming Glory (1:5-10). Paul continued to encourage the Thessalonians by reminding them that God would honor them for their faithfulness by counting them "worthy of the kingdom of God." He also encouraged them by reminding them of Christ's glory and power. But, along with the encouragement, there is a strong warning for those who are not believers.

We can not forget that while those who know Christ will live with him in glory, those who have not believed will be eternally separated from God. With this in mind, we must pray for the lost and share Christ's love with them in hopes that they might believe in him.

Prayer for Godliness (1:11-12). Paul's prayer grew out of his thankfulness for the Thessalonians and his contemplation of things to come as he prayed for their continued spiritual growth in numerous ways. First, he asked that they would be worthy of God's call. We should all strive to be found worthy, hoping to hear those words, "Well done my good and faithful servant," and this should be our prayer for others.

Second, he prayed that God, by his power, would "fulfill every good purpose of yours." This does not mean that through God's power we are to strive to complete the things we want. Instead, Paul was praying, as we should pray for ourselves and others, that in keeping with our growing faith, love, and perseverance, through God's power we would be able to carry out those purposes given us by God. Thus, we should first pray that our purposes, and those of our fellow believers, are

God's and then pray God's power will enable us to see them to completion.

Third, he prayed that God's power would fulfill, "every act prompted by your faith." The underlying truth here is that a life marked by faith is prompted to action. This is again a twofold prayer; the first part being that our faith would prompt action in our lives and, second, that God's power would fulfill those actions prompted by faith. Our churches are in dire need of faith-activated Christians; let us pray that we and our fellow believers would be such Christians.

Paul's conclusion gives the reason for everything—that "our Lord Jesus may be glorified." In praying for others, and ourselves, we can never forget that our true motivation must be to glorify God. Let us pray that we would all seek to live to glorify him.

Powell is a member of First Church, Clinton.



You can find the missing PEACE



The Prince of Peace extends a wonderful invitation to you.

1. His love gives us peace.

This is his promise:

"Perfect love casts out fear."

(1 John 4:18) When we ask Christ into our lives, his love chases away fear.

2. His promise of eternal life gives us peace.

The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life." (Romans 6:23) God provides eternal life through the death and resurrection of his Son.

3. His promise to walk with us through life gives us peace.

Jesus said, "In me you may have peace. In this world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

Jesus extends his promise of peace to us, but we must respond by accepting him as the missing piece in our lives.

You can make that commitment today by, (1) admitting you need God, (2) confessing your sins to him, and (3) by faith, receiving Christ as Lord.

If you make a decision for Christ today, contact a local Mississippi Baptist Church for spiritual guidance.

Campus ministers show pathway to Jesus

By Traci Muller
SBC Home Mission Board

NEWBERG, Ore. — College students are known for their curiosity, willingness to try new things, and desire for fun and freedom. For some, these characteristics led to a new life in Jesus Christ.

The Portland, Ore., area has 15 college campuses totaling approximately 100,000 students. Mission Service Corps volunteers Wes and Charlean Hughes are there steering students onto a path they haven't tried; one leading to Jesus Christ.

For many students, contact with any form of religion has been sparse to none during their lives, but the lack of awareness can spark interest.

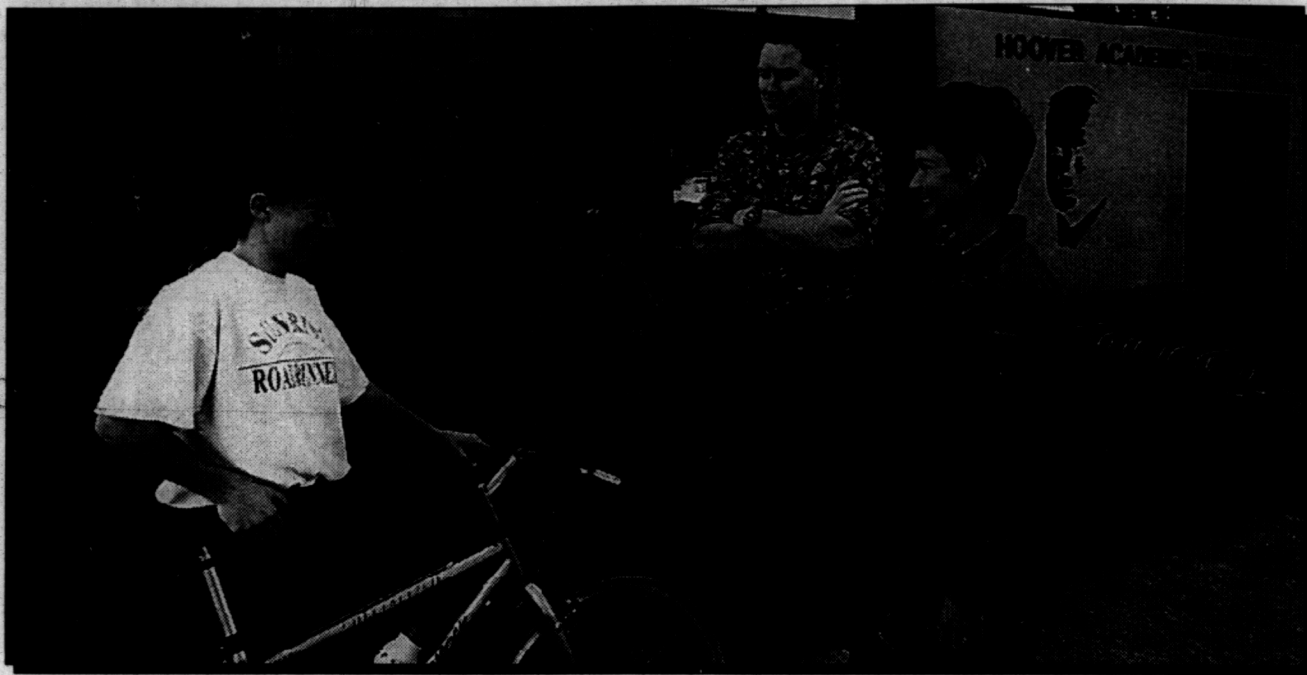
"The Northwest is a very secular area and Oregon is the least church state in the United States," Charlean Hughes said.

"It's reflected on our college campuses. With college students, however, they are open to new ideas. They are trying to put away their traditional things and seek new ones. For people who've grown up without Christianity, Christianity is a new thing."

Serving since 1990, Wes and Charlean are involved in Baptist student ministry. They were among the missionaries featured in this year's Week of Prayer for Home Missions.

The Hugheses have a three-point emphasis when ministering to college students: to involve students in the local church, missions emphases, and outreach activities.

"We're a student-led organization," Hughes said. "We try



STUDENT MINISTERS — Wes (second from right) and Charlean Hughes (right) talk with student Rima Butler outside Hoover Academic Building on the George Fox University campus. Wes Hughes works through the Chehalem Valley Baptist Church as campus ministries director. Charlean Hughes works through the Northwest Baptist Convention, training and supervising summer and semester missionaries. (HMB photo by Don Rutledge)

hard to draw that out of them and try to get them involved in taking ownership of the ministry on their campus. We try to develop one-on-one relationships."

One successful method the Hugheses use to keep in touch with students is through electronic mail. The Hugheses can easily send out an invitation to a Bible study, get information, or simply send a quick note of encouragement.

Wes Hughes feels one key for college students is to establish ties with them when they are in high school.

He spends time with youth groups at Centrifuge camps to introduce them to Baptist Student Ministries and bridge the vital gap between high

school and college. "We tell them that once their youth experience is over, they can continue to grow and be discipled."

They can continue to do that in the campus environment and we want to be there for them to help them grow in their faith.

"We can plug them into a local church and God can use

them to help reach another part of their community, their family, their friends, and later the business world."

The Hugheses pray that God will direct them in their ministry and that Southern Baptists will continue to support their work in Oregon as Mission Service Corps volunteers.



LifeAnswers

Ron Mumbower, Ph.D.
Minister of Counseling
First Church, Jackson

My husband never hugs our son's neck, choosing instead to shake his hand. I see my son wanting more from his father. What should I do?

My fatherless 15-year old is thrilled by the extreme violence in the media — especially violence against women. What should I say to him?

Just clowning around...



Clowns for Christ of Fairview Church, Tupelo, perform a skit during open performance time at the Mississippi Baptist Christian Performing Arts Festival, Feb. 28-March 1, at Woodland Hills Church, Jackson. The festival drew a total of 458 participants who took classes in the use of clowning, drama, puppetry, and recreation in witnessing for Christ. Sponsored by the Discipleship and Family Ministry and Church Music Departments of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the festival featured a gospel performance by mime artist Doug Berky and a concert by the group "Sold Out" from Ridgcrest Church, Madison. (Photo by Tim Nicholas)

Children of all ages need the touch of both parents. This does not mean a father has to go around hugging and kissing his son. Most boys wouldn't allow Dad to do that, anyway (I have four sons). Still, boys need the touch of a man. A simple arm around the shoulder or pat on the back says very loudly, "I'm here for you and I'm interested in you." Of course, you cannot force your husband to be more affectionate toward his son but you can bring this matter to his attention. Ask your husband to verbally encourage his son — another way to build him up. You can facilitate your husband and son being able to spend more time together, and you can help them learn to listen to each other and respond to the other's needs. One of the best ways to do this is for all of you to engage in family prayer time together.

This has less to do with being fatherless and more to do with the fascination most 15-year-old boys typically have with such "entertainment." Watch his shows and videos together, then discuss with him how he felt while viewing the violence. Even though you may disagree, listen intently. Talk with him specifically about the scenes that depict violence against women. Let him know that you are concerned about how such imagery could affect his ideas about women. Ask him how he would feel if such violence were committed against you, his mother. He may not like talking about it, but make the point that every woman is special to someone just like him. Talk with him about his situation and do it now. It may help him realize what it takes to build a healthy relationship with the opposite sex.

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name is not required. Remember: in time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.